

PATENTDocket No. 1948-4293 US1IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Menard et al
Serial No. : TBA Group Art Unit:
Filed : March 11, 1998 Examiner:
For : **FRiction MATERIAL DESIGNED FOR FITTING TO A DEVICE EMPLOYING
FRiction IN A LIQUID MEDIUM, AND THE METHOD OF PRODUCING SUCH
A FRiction MATERIAL AND THE DEVICE TO WHICH IT IS FITTED**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

The items listed on Form PTO-1449, a copy of which is enclosed, may be deemed to be pertinent to the above-identified application and are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items and to independently ascertain their teaching

1. [X] For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, an International Search Report from the corresponding International Application noting the relevance of that item is enclosed:
DE A 3 231 310; DE A 2 935 205; EP A 0 223,642; EP A 0 530,741
2. [] For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application.
3. [X] Any copy of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement was previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in the prior [X] Continuation, [] Divisional or [] Continuation-In-Part application under 37 C.F.R. §1.60, U.S. Serial No. 08/553,573, filed November 27, 1996.
4. [X] No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

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Docket No. 1948-4293 US1

- [X] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application.
- [] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application.
- [x] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits.
5. [] No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below.
6. [] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance (where there has been no prior final action):
- [] A check in the amount of \$220.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee.
- [] Charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-4500. Order No. _____ A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.
7. [] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance, whichever comes first, but before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:
- one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below; and
 - the attached petition requesting consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement; and
 - the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) which is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.
8. [] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:
- [] 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(3), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement may render at least one claim unpatentable and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue;
 - [] 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(5), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is to be considered in a Continuation application upon abandonment of the instant application and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue.
 - The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.

Docket No. 1948-4293 US1

9. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

I hereby certify that no item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

10. A check in the amount of \$130.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1).

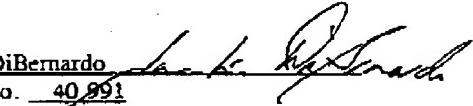
Charge the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. _____ A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1948-4293 US1. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: March 11, 1998

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FORM: IDS.NY
Rev. 9/29/95

APPENDIX I.y

Sheet 1 of 2

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| FORM PTO-1449 | | U S DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | ATTY. DOCKET NO. 1948-4293 US1 | SERIAL NO TBA |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> | | APPLICANT(S) | | |
| | | FILING DATE | GROUP ART UNIT | |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|------------------|--|-----------------|--------|------------------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
| | | 2,733,797 | 2/7/56 | Almep et al. | | | |
| | | 5,273,819 | 12/93 | Jex | 428 | 297 | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
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| | | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | | 742,043 | 12/21/95 | Great Britain | | | | |
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| | | 0 530 741 A1 | 3/10/95 | European Patent Office (French) | | | | X |

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Papers, Etc.)

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| | | JP910071291/92-410457 Derwent abstract, 29 October 1992 |
| | | |

| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
|----------|-----------------|
| | |

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

M&F REV 06/29/99

APPENDIX A-5

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Sheet 2 of 2

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| FORM PTO-1449 | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | ATTY. DOCKET NO. 1948-4293 US1 | SERIAL NO TBA |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> | | APPLICANT(S) | |
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
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| | 4,895,882 | 1/90 | Asano et al. | 523 | 145 | |
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JP910071291/92-410457 Derwent abstract, 29 October 1992

EXAMINER _____ **DATE CONSIDERED** _____

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.